

Chapter 4: Regulations for Recreation Activities

Section 1: Picnicking

- a. Picnicking is allowed in designated areas.
- b. Assuming control of a reservation picnic site or even a portion of a reservation picnic area without a permit is not allowed.
- c. A permit and approval from Parks' staff is required for the use of tents, canopies, inflatables, large games and rides, dunk tanks, volleyball nets, etc. in picnic areas.

Section 2: Grilling and Outdoor Cooking

- a. Grilling and outdoor cooking is allowed in areas designated and equipped for that purpose. Grilling is not allowed on beach area.
- b. McMurray, Rice and Arlington and Dunning ball fields allow grilling and outdoor cooking in designated areas.
- c. Individuals are allowed to bring their own grill for outdoor cooking but must extinguish all charcoal before disposal, and charcoal ash must be disposed of in designated receptacles.

Section 3: Recreational Fires

- a. Recreational fires are allowed only in areas specifically designated as fire rings
- b. Any recreational fire outside of the designated area(s) requires a permit and/or written permission from the Director.
- c. Fires shall not be left unattended and must be extinguished no later than 11:00 PM.
- d. Only cut logs and charcoal briquettes are allowed to be burned. The harvesting of live or dead wood from any park area is not allowed.
- e. Portable fire pits are not allowed.

Section 4: Swimming and Swimming Areas

- a. Bathing, wading, or swimming is only allowed in areas that are specifically designated for those activities and only at times when a lifeguard is on duty.
- b. Bathing, wading, or swimming in any designated lake or pool requires appropriate bathing attire. Questionable attire shall be approved by the facility manager.
- c. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- d. Animals accompanied by people are not allowed to come closer than 100 yards of any swimming beach during the operating season.
- e. Animals accompanied by people are not allowed to enter the water closer than 100 yards from a designated swimming area.
- f. Launching, docking, or operating any water craft within 150 yards of a designated swimming area is not allowed.
- g. The rules, directions and instructions of the lifeguards "on-duty" shall be followed at all times.
- h. An admission fee is required before entering the Como Park, Highland Park and Oxford swimming pool(s).
- i. Bicycles, mopeds and alternative vehicles are not allowed on a beach or within a pool facility except at designated bicycle racks.
- j. Fishing is not allowed from City swimming beaches.

Section 5: Flotation Devices

- a. Inner tubes, life rafts, or other inflatable or buoyant objects which provide flotation support are not allowed at any pool or body of water within the park system.
- b. U.S. Coastguard approved Personal Flotation Devices are allowed in shallow water areas. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Persons with disabilities that wish to enter deep water with the aid of a PFD must inform the facility manager on-site before entering the deep water area, and must be accompanied by a companion.

Section 6: Boating

- a. Minnesota licensed boats and life rafts approved by the U. S. Coast Guard are allowed on any lake or pond. One personal flotation device per occupant is required.

- b. Gasoline powered motors may be on a boat but cannot be used on City lakes.
- c. Electric trolling motors can be used on City lakes.
- d. Boats may only be launched at an authorized boat launch site.
- e. Boating is not allowed before daylight or after park hours.
- f. Boat rental on City lakes can only be conducted by concessionaires authorized by the Director.
- g. Each water craft kept on park waters must be equipped as required by law, and is subject to inspection; any water craft which does not meet the requirements will not be allowed on a lake.
- h. It is illegal to operate any water craft in violation of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 361. All water craft operators shall remove Eurasian Milfoil and/or other nuisance materials from their water craft in accordance with Minnesota law.
- i. Only car top-carried boats are allowed on Como Lake, and the parking of boat trailers is not allowed in any Como Park parking lots.

Section 7: Public Docks

- a. The public dock at Harriet Island Park and all other public docks are available for public use from daylight to 11:00 PM.
- b. Boaters may tie-up to the Public Dock at Harriet Island only during public hours.
- c. Fishing is allowed from all public docks except the dock at Phalen Lakeside Pavilion. Fishing from the Public Dock at Harriet Island is allowed, but should be kept at least 20 feet from moored vessels.

Section 8: Paths and Trails

- a. Designated pathways, trails and surfaces normally provided for vehicular traffic may be used by bicyclists, pedestrians and other users.
- b. Pedestrians shall have the right-of-way at all times. Motorized vehicles shall have the right-of-way where a bicycle path intersects. Bicycle riders shall observe and obey all traffic laws, traffic signals and directional signs.
- c. Bicycle riders shall operate in a safe and controlled manner.
- d. Designated bicycle racks are provided for bike parking. Bikes should not be left out where they may endanger other park patrons.
- e. In-line skates, roller skates, roller skis and self propelled scooters are allowed on paved pathways under the same stipulations as bicycles.
- f. Skateboards are not permitted on paved pathways without written permission from the Director.
- g. Permanent and/or temporary pathway or trail markings shall not be placed on any City pathway or trail without written permission from the Director.

Section 9: Golf

- a. Golf play is only allowed on City courses during times when the course is open for official business.
- b. Parents must accompany children between the ages of 7 - 11. Children under the age of 7 are not allowed on the course at any time.
- c. Only persons 16 years of age and older, with a valid driver's license may operate a motorized golf cart.
- d. A valid greens fee receipt is required before entering the area of play, and that receipt must be carried by the player or group at all times during play.
- e. Practice play, including driving and putting, is only allowed in designated areas.
- f. Tampering with any irrigation system, tee marker, greens flag, or maintenance equipment is not allowed.
- g. Entrance to or exit from any golf course is allowed only through designated access points.

Section 10: Fishing and Ice Fishing

- a. Fishing is allowed on City lakes and ponds in designated areas and only in accordance with current Minnesota State fishing regulations.
- b. Ice fishing houses or similar structures cannot be placed on any City lake before sunrise and must be removed no later than 11:00 PM.
- c. An ice fishing hole on City lakes cannot be larger than 10 inches in diameter.

- d. Ice fishing is not allowed in areas designated for ice skating.

Section 11: Cross Country Ski Trails and Skijoring

- a. The City's cross country ski trails are exclusive use areas, and can only be used for this activity.
- b. Groomed Cross Country ski trails are provided at Como golf course, Phalen golf course, Highland 9-hole golf course, Crosby Farm Park, Hidden Falls Park and Lilydale Park.
- c. Skijoring is a winter sport in which a person wearing cross country skis is pulled over snow by a dog in harness.
- d. Skijoring is permitted at Highland 18-hole golf course, and only in the designated area(s). Call 651-266-6400 for further information.
- e. Skijoring dogs must be leashed at all times and are subject to the same control and clean-up rules and fines listed in CHAPTER 7, Section 2 (d).
- f. Skijoring dogs are not allowed on any other trails.
- g. Cross country skiing is not allowed on the grounds of Como Campus (Zoo and Conservatory).

Section 12: Snowmobiles and All-Terrain Vehicles

All terrain vehicles (ATVs) are not allowed in City parks. Snowmobiling is allowed on Lake Phalen and on the lagoon and north of any east/west line extending across the lake from the southernmost portion of the Lakeside Activity center as a route into the Ramsey County park area under the rules listed below. Any exception to these rules shall require written permission from the Director:

- a. Snowmobilers are to park their vehicles in the Lakeside Activity Center parking lot and drive their snowmobiles directly onto the lake.
- b. Snowmobiles shall be operated in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.
- c. Snowmobiling is not allowed before daylight or after park hours.
- d. No more than two adults, or one adult and two minor children can ride on the snowmobile at the same time.
- e. Snowmobiles must be driven in a reasonable manner so as to not endanger the safety of others.
- f. Snowmobiles must stay at least 50 yards of any other park users and from any areas which endanger other park users.
- g. Snowmobiles shall not be left on the lake ice or left unattended.

Section 13: Wildlife and Environmental Protection

- a. Attempts to kill, injure, harass, remove or unnecessarily disturb fish, water fowl, singing or other bird, deer or any wildlife creatures within park property is not allowed
- b. The feeding of any wildlife creatures within park property is not allowed without written permission from the Director.
- c. The abuse of any natural resource within the park system is not allowed, nor is the removal of any natural resource from within the park system without written permission from the Director. This includes but is not limited to: trees, plants, shrubs, flowers, soil and turf.